IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE re Application of:) Confirmation No.: 1733 Docket No. DN2001136 Giorgio Agostini, et al.) Art Unit: 1714 For: MASTERBATCH OF FUNCTIONALIZED) Examiner: CARBON BLACK AND ELASTOMER(S) AND) I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States ARTICLES WITH COMPONENT(S) THEREOF,) Postal Service as first class mail in an **INCLUDING TIRES** envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box DD, Serial No.: 09/897,316) Washington, DC 20231, on the 31d day of October, 2002. Filed: July 2, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

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Washington, D.C. 20231

<u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</u> <u>PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. SECTIONS 1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98</u>

Dear Sir:

Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. Also enclosed is a copy of the European search report.

Respectfully submitted,

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